

SAM – WASTE PREVENTION AND RECYCLING OF NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE

SCRAP METAL

1930.11

(Revised 12/2013)

Scrap metal recycling is common and has a mature, extensive infrastructure. Depending on the quantity and quality of scrap metal generated, state agencies may receive revenue from recycling ferrous (sticks to a magnet, like steel & iron) and non-ferrous (aluminum, copper, brass, etc.) metal. Types of common scrap metal include: used wire, pipes, signs, posts, appliances, tin (steel) cans, empty aerosol and paint cans, rails and fencing, and some types of furniture. Agencies that generate significant amounts of scrap metal may choose to either sort out the most valuable types, or to commingle all types into one bin before sale to a scrap metal recycler. Metals are among the most valuable recycled commodities and they should be protected from theft.

CalRecycle manages two scrap metal contracts in Southern California that are available to state facilities in Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. To reference these contracts:

<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/StateAgency/Assistance/Contracts.htm>

When it is recycled, scrap metal is generally exempt from hazardous waste regulations under both federal and state law. Scrap metal is not exempt from regulations under either federal or State Law when disposed, especially if it exhibits a characteristic of hazardous waste or is contaminated with a listed hazardous waste. Such situations may include metals covered with old, leaded paint, or motor parts covered with oil and grease. In these cases, metal may need to be managed as a hazardous waste under federal law [40 CFR 261.6\(a\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#) and state law [22 CCR 66261.6\(a\)\(3\)\(B\)](#).